

REMARKS

The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for thoroughly reviewing and considering the pending application. The Office Action dated August 23, 2004 has been received and carefully reviewed. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended. In addition, new claims 4-6 have been added. Claims 1-6 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,555,640 to *Ou* (hereinafter "*Ou*"). The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As required in Chapter 2131 of the M.P.E.P., in order to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102, "the reference must teach every element of the claim." The Applicants respectfully submit that *Ou* does not teach every element recited in claim 1. Thus, *Ou* cannot anticipate claim 1. To further illustrate, claim 1 recites a structure for shielding an exposed part of core wire, comprising, among other features, "a wall for shielding an exposed part of core wire extending from an upper front portion and a lower front portion of the terminal block." *Ou* does not disclose this feature. At best, *Ou* discloses a heat diffusion plate 28 located between a heating chamber 2 and a drying chamber 3. See col. 6, lines 47-49. The heat diffusion plate 28 does not extend from an upper and a lower front portion of a terminal block, as required by claim 1, nor does it shield exposed core wire. As such, the Applicants respectfully submit that *Ou* fails to disclose each and every element recited in claim 1, and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

In addition, the Office Action rejected claims 2-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Ou* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,836,088 to *Barney et al.* (hereinafter “*Barney*”). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As required in Chapter 2143.03 of the M.P.E.P., in order to “establish *prima facie* obviousness of the claimed invention, all the limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art.” The Applicants respectfully submit that neither *Ou* nor *Barney*, either singularly or in combination, disclose each and every element recited in claims 2 and 3. As discussed above with reference to claim 1, from which claims 2 and 3 depend, *Ou* fails to disclose each and every element recited therein. *Barney* fails to overcome the previously noted shortcomings of *Ou*, namely “a wall for shielding an exposed part of core wire extending from an upper front portion and a lower front portion of the terminal block.” Therefore, neither *Ou* nor *Barney*, either singularly or in combination, disclose or suggest all the features recited in claims 2 and 3. The Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2 and 3 are patentable over *Ou* in view of *Barney* and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Applicants believe the application is in a condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

Application No.: 10/663,995
Amendment dated
Reply to Office Action dated August 23, 2004

Docket No.: 9988.059.00-US

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: November 19, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By


Mark R. Kresloff

Registration No.: 42,766

MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

Attorney for Applicants